

Application No. 10/810,349
Filed: March 26, 2004
TC Art Unit: 3721
Confirmation No.: 8227

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, and 14-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over US Pat. No. 4,864,801 to Fallas (Fallas '801). Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is believed to be patentable over Fallas '801 for the reasons set forth in Applicant's response dated June 21, 2007.

In addition, claim 1 is further amended herein to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claim 14, and claim 14 is canceled. Applicant believes that the prior art of record further does not disclosure, teach, or suggest that, at least during a downward movement, a holder is partly carried by at least one pressure-controlled air cylinder and is partly carried by a drive controlling a vertical position of the holder, in combination with the other recitations of claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom are believed to be patentable over Fallas '801.

Claims 2-4 have been rejected under § 103(a) over Fallas '801 in view of Focke (US Pat. No. 5,430,994). Claims 6-8, 12-13, and 20 have been rejected under § 103(a) over Fallas '801 in view of US Pat. No. 5,123,231 to Fallas (Fallas '231). Claims 10 and 11 have been rejected under § 103(a) over Fallas '801. Claims 19 and 21 have been rejected under § 103(a) over Fallas '801 in view of Focke and in view of Fallas '231. Claim 22 has been rejected under § 103(a) over Fallas '801 in view of Fallas '231 and in view of Focke. These claims are believed to be patentable for the reasons set forth with respect to independent claim 1, and no further comment is therefore believed necessary at this time.

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Dependent claims 21 and 22 have been amended for consistency with independent amended claim 1.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and indication thereof are respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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